LAW OFFICES
DENNISON, SCHULTZ & MACDONALD
SUITE 105
1727 KING STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314-2700
703 837-9600

REMARKS

The Office Action of December 6, 2007 has been carefully considered.

The title has been amended to more accurately reflect the subject matter of the invention, and the specification has been amended to add a reference to the prior PCT application.

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Tamamura et al.

The invention is directed to a cast part made from an alloy consisting essentially of, in % by weight, Mg < 0.1, Si: 4.5 - 10, Cu: 2.0 - 5.0, Ni < 0.4, Ti: 0.03 - 0.25, Zr: 0.05 - 0.25, Fe < 0.9, Zn < 0.3, optionally V: 0.02 - 0.30, Mn: 0.1 - 0.5, Hf, Nb, Ta, Cr, Mo and/or W: 0.03 - 0.30, other elements < 0.10 each and < 0.30 total, the remainder being aluminum. The object is to obtain a cast part with high creep resistance, particularly between 230 and 380°C, especially a cylinder head for an internal combustion engine.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the part is made by casting the alloy in a mold. Casting in a mold or die is a feature of the casting methods disclosed in paragraph [0045] of the published application, and is also disclosed in the production of test pieces in paragraph [0050] of the published application.

Tamamura et al is alleged to disclose having a composition with ranges which overlap the claimed ranges. The alloy disclosed by Tamamura et al contains, by weight, 8-15% silicon, 1-4% copper, 0.05-0.6% magnesium, and the balance aluminum. Optional elements are iron, chromium, manganese, nickel zirconium and titanium, with iron being present in an amount less than 0.7% and the other elements in an amount of less than 0.15%.

There is, accordingly, no overlap with the alloy of present claim 2, which is directed to an alloy with Mg less

than 0.03%, since the alloys of Tamamura et al contain at least 0.05% Mg.

Moreover, the present invention is directed specifically to cast parts, i.e. parts cast in a mold. Cast parts are not the object of Tamamura et al.

In Tamamura et al, the only mention of casting is casting an ingot by continuous casting, which does not involve a mold. The parts which are produced (tape scanning drums) are not cast, but are wrought, produced by subjecting the ingot to plastic working, heat treating to effect solution treatment, hard aging, and cutting the parts out from the resulting alloy material followed by machining (see col. 3, lines 40-61).

Hence, to arrive at the teaching of the invention starting from Tamamura et al, one would not only need to select values from the broad ranges of Tamamura et al which are applicable only because of the different object of the invention, but would also need to ignore the teachings of Tamamura et al regarding the production of *wrought* parts, and instead product *cast* parts, by mold casting, a method not discussed in Tamamura et al. Moreover, the invention is based on limiting the Mg content to very low levels, less than 0.1% by weight, and preferably less than 0.03%, whereas Tamamura et al teaches a more conventional range of up to 0.6%.

Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claim 9 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Tamamura et al in view of "Aluminum and Aluminum Alloys" or GB 605,282, which have been cited for a teaching of adding vanadium to Al alloys. This combination of references do not, however, teach one of ordinary skill to ignore the disclosure of Tamamura et al relating to the production of wrought parts, and withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the present application is now in

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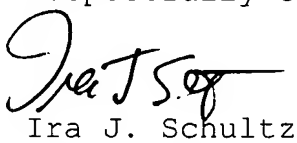
condition for allowance. An early allowance of the application with amended claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Ira J. Schultz
Registration No. 28666
Attorney for Applicants
(703)837-9600, ext. 23

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